(c) whether it is a fact that no reward/ incentives are given to such conductors at par with the drivers for non-accidental cases in a particular year; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to give such incentives to the conductors in future also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The year-wise receipt of lost property items and their release to their owners are given below:

Year	Number of items received	Released
1985	2147	610
1986 . . .	2620	628
1987 . . .	1844	508

Unclaimed articles are auctioned by DTC after the expiry of 3 months. An amount of Rs. 3,362 was realised in the auctions during 1986. No sales were effected in auctions during 1985 and 1987. During auctions of lost property items during January, February and upto 2nd March, 1988 Rs. 2,08,133 have been realised.

(c) and (d) There is a separate incentive scheme applicable to the Conductors. Under this scheme, an award of Rs. 25 per quarter is given by DTC to Conductors maintaining good conduct which includes honesty.

ईंधन की अत्यधिक खपत

2278. **श्री रशीद मसूद :** क्या जल–भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इस समय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की शोचनीय स्थिति के कारण देश में अत्यधिक मात्रा में ईंधन की खपत हो रही है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि वर्तमान राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के उचित रखरखाव के लिए मांग की गयी है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) कितने अतिरिक्त ईंधन की प्रति वर्ष खपत को हो रही है ?

जल–भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट) : (क) राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के खण्डों में ज्यामेट्रिक्स, सतह और पेवमेंट की चौड़ाई की अपर्याप्तता जैसे कुछ कारणों से अधिक ईंधन खपत होती है ।

(ख) और (ग) राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के उचित रखरखाव के लिए राज्य पर्याप्त धनराशियों की मांग करते हैं । वर्ष-दर-वर्ष उपलब्ध वित्तीय संसाधनों के दायरे में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के रखरखाव के लिए आवंटन बढ़ाने के प्रयास किए जाते हैं । वर्ष 1987–88 के लिए पूरे देश में आवश्यक रख-रखाव कार्य के लिए 177.24 करोड़ रुपए की जरूरत है । इसकी तुलना में सिर्फ 99.03 करोड़ रुपए का आवंटन किया गया है ।

(घ) संक्षिप्त अनुमान उपलब्ध नहीं है । मोटे तौर पर मूल्यांकन के आधार पर राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों में खामियों के कारण लगभग 650 करोड़ रुपए की अधिक ईंधन खपत हो सकती है ।

Mobile library|bookstalls in long distance trains

2279. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to provide mobile library-cum-bookstall in each and every long distance trains; and

(b) what are the details with names of mobile library-cum-bookstall contracts run by unemployed graduates on the trains over Indian Railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Setting up of Planetarium in Chandigarh

2280. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chandigarh Administration has requested for the setting up of a Children's hospital at Chandigarh; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Setting up of a Planetarium in Chandigarh

2281. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision was taken to set up a planetarium at Chandigarh;

(b) if so, what is the progress made in the matter; and

(c) what are the places in the country where planetaria are planned to be set up during the current Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present the Government has no such plan.

Laying of new Railway lines from Karandul to Kovvur

2282. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for laying a new Railway line from Karandul (Madhya Pradesh) to Kovvur (Andhra Pradesh) is pending with Government for sanction;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in clearing the project; and

(c) whether Government are aware that this project would greatly help in the transportation of Iron ore to Vishakhapatnam Port?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) At present there is no such proposal pending for sanction. Survey for the railway line in question had been conducted in 1964—66. In the meantime, construction of the Kottavalasa-Kirandul line was sanctioned for transport of Bailadilla iron ore for export to Japan via Visakhapatnam Port, With this, it was not found justified to open up a new route for the same iron ore, *via Kovvur*.

Declaration of National Highway in Andhra Pradesh

2283. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare (i) Vijayawada to Machalipatnam, (ii) Nayudupet, Tirupati and Chittor; and (iii) Hyderabad to Chandrapur (Maharashtra) as National Highways;

(b) whether these projects are proposed to be taken up in view of the existing length of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh being only 2352 kilometres which is low as compared to National average: **and**